

Our Purpose

To examine Arizona Special Education State Board 401 rules, to propose rules that are clear, instructive, and aligned to the IDEA, and to provide guidance for implementation.

Core Team

Kristina Blackledge
Advocate & SEAP Member

Angela Denning
Arizona Department of Education
Deputy Associate Superintendent

Craig Carter
Director of Special Services
Washington Elem School District

Mollie Casson
ESS Director, Kingman Unified

Jan Cawthorne
Executive Director of Special
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Elizabeth Conran, Chief Academic
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Sarah Gamble
Director of Special Education
Primavera Online High School

Kristen Hartsuff
Director of Special Education
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Lorrane McPherson
Treasurer, AZCEC

Kimberly Peaslee,
Parent & Chairperson of CAC & SEAP
Member

Heidi Sinkovic
Director of ESS, The Leona Group
Chris Tiffany, Raising Special Kids &
SEAP Member

Our Group Norms

- We engage in active listening
- We seek to understand
- We strive for a collective impact
- We honor the communication plan
- We support working for the greater good
- Our communication is timely and accurate
- We use rubrics to evaluate our work
- We need to learn and “unlearn”
- Reflection is critical to our success

Consensus--A two tiered approach:

The Core Team will work toward unanimous consensus on every issue. If not an unanimous consensus the group will use a supermajority vote (11/13).

Rule Committee – Core Team

May 12, 2014 Communiqué

Core Team Attendees: Sarah Gamble, Wendy Collison, Beth Conran, Kim Peaslee, Craig Carter, Kris Hartsuff, Kristina Blackledge, Mollie Casson,

ADE Support Staff: Angela Denning, Lisa Aaroe, Cindy Bolewski, Jinju Park, Maria Durazo

Meeting Location: ADE Central Offices

You’ve got to think about big things while you’re doing small things, so that all the small things go in the right direction.

GOAL for Today: Finalize Child Find section ready to send to Leslie Cooper at the AG’s office and complete the Initial Evaluation section to send out for public comment. Set agenda for June 9th meeting.

What we did.

- We discussed the feedback from the field via the ESS Inbox. The team discussed identifying specific sub categories of disabilities specifically in regulations and decided to keep all recommendations within the context of IDEA to maintain focus on all aspects of a child rather than set up a pre-conceived track to follow.
- We agreed to seek input from the public on their thoughts/concerns about the next upcoming topics in addition to reviewing feedback on completed work.
- AG’s staff clarified that “as appropriate” in IDEA refers to members of the IEP team.
- We broke into two sub-groups to explore recommendations for changes to Initial Evaluation and Parental Consent.

What we learned.

- We learned that the Parental Consent section of the Az Code is a repetition of information that is already clearly addressed in IDEA under sections 34 C.F.R. 300.300 & 300.301.
- We learned that more was accomplished in the small groups and sharing between them.

What we accomplished.

- We finalized work on the Child Find section which will be sent to the AG’s office for review.
- We determined that the Parental Consent section will be removed under the AZ Code and will be addressed under each section – Eligibility, IEP, etc.
- We determined that the Evaluation Section under Eligibility will have 3 sections: Initial Evaluation, Re-evaluation, and Evaluation Procedures.
- We set the agenda for the next meeting, June 9, 2014, which will include inviting the Key Participants.

Next Steps:

We set the agenda for our next meeting on June 9th from 9:00 am -3:00 pm to which the Key Participants will be invited to review the process and work of the committee to date.

- Core Team Agenda
 - Welcome & Agenda Review
 - Goal for the Day
 - Time Keeper assignment
 - Prepare for Large Group
 - Child Find, Evaluation and Parental Consent
 - Revise & Finalize Initial Evaluation, Reevaluation and Parental consent for each labeled section Review Feedback/Anecdotes from the Field

Notes:

Rule Making Core Committee May 12, 2014 Communiqué

- Expanded Group Agenda for June 9, 2014
 - Norms for Groups
 - Share information gathered
 - Share the process, data reviewed, documents, decision process
 - Get feedback on the Communication Plan
 - Child Find, Evaluation, and Parental Consent
 - Who else needs to be invited?

We Want to Hear from You!

Please send your comments to AZBoardRuleCommitteeInBox@azed.gov . We look forward to hearing from the community at large, Key Advisors and Extended Partners on our work to date and future agenda items. These documents along with key documents are posted on the Director's Corner at:

<http://www.azed.gov/special-education/category/directors-corner/>.